Yale Eye Center—40 Years
Ophthalmology and Visual Science

A CLEAR VISION FOR INNOVATION

Yale
I am delighted to introduce you to the Yale School of Medicine and its exceptional Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science on the occasion of the department’s 40th anniversary. Ophthalmology at Yale has a distinguished history that continues to the present.

The Yale School of Medicine marked its 200th year in 2010, celebrating a tradition of excellence in medical education, biomedical research, and clinical care. Over these years, Yale School of Medicine has made numerous seminal contributions to the practice of medicine and to our understanding of its scientific basis. The Yale system of medical education, which emphasizes self-directed learning and original student research, has produced leaders in every field of medicine. Yale has accomplished all this by appointing outstanding department chairs and helping them to build great departments.

Yale Ophthalmology exemplifies our grand tradition. The department was responsible for the introduction of the breakthrough glaucoma medication timolol, thanks to the work of its founding chair, Marvin Sears, MD; and has made a number of key discoveries in the field over the past four decades, including the identification of genes responsible for wet age-related macular degeneration. In recent years, under the leadership of Jim Tsai, the Yale Eye Center has further enhanced its regional and national reputation for clinical excellence by introducing medical innovations and therapeutic advances that are covered in detail in this publication. The center’s clinical and research activities have expanded dramatically since 2007, with a focus on new clinical services and basic and translational studies relevant to glaucoma and retinal disorders. The residency training program has grown in popularity and attracts top applicants from around the country.
The department’s fellowship programs in retina and glaucoma have gained enhanced national recognition, while increased clinical volume has sparked interest in creating additional fellowship programs in cornea, ophthalmic plastics, and pediatric ophthalmology.

On behalf of the school I congratulate the department on reaching this important milestone and playing an essential role as one of the world’s major centers for biomedical research, clinical care, and the education of physicians and scientists in ophthalmology.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Alpern, MD
Dean, Yale School of Medicine
Ensign Professor of Medicine
The Vision of the Yale Eye Center is “Sustainable Excellence.” We are delighted to share with you the exciting and innovative advances here at the Yale Eye Center. In the pages that follow, you will witness our continuing growth as a world-recognized department of ophthalmology and visual science. We now celebrate 40 years of departmental status at the Yale School of Medicine.

We dedicate this booklet to M. Bruce Shields, MD, Chair Emeritus, and the late Betty Ruth Hollander of our Eye Center Advisory Board. Their devoted work to develop support for Yale Eye Center programs that include macular degeneration, pediatric ophthalmology, and ophthalmic oncology has been dramatic and far-reaching, making a difference in the lives of patients around the globe.

Through strong partnerships with the Yale School of Medicine and Yale-New Haven Hospital, the Yale Eye Center has secured a national and international reputation of clinical excellence, innovative research, and high-quality medical education. We have assembled a world-class team of highly talented, experienced, and compassionate doctors, technicians, and staff. Since 2007 the department’s patient volume has increased by 67%; clinical revenue has doubled; and surgical volume has tripled. By utilizing cutting-edge diagnostic technology and innovative therapies, we provide personalized top-quality care and a superior patient experience.

We are advancing the boundaries of scientific knowledge through basic, translational, and clinical research programs. Our newly recruited basic scientists expand the University’s expertise in vision science, collaborating with one another and with faculty members in neuroscience, physiology, genetics, molecular biology, and stem cell research. Our clinical research coordinators support dozens of current clinical research projects, in addition to a thriving new program of Academic Associates.
The Department vigorously embraces a mission of training the next generation of academic leaders in ophthalmology and visual science. Our residency program was approved for expansion to five residents per year (for a total of 15 residents), based in part on sharp increases in the number of clinical and surgical patients at the Yale Eye Center and in our affiliate programs at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System in West Haven and the Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center. Our clinical fellowship programs in retina and glaucoma have enhanced their national reputations, while our Yale medical students match in the leading ophthalmology residency programs in the country.

Sincerely yours,

James C. Tsai, MD, MBA, FACS
Robert R. Young Professor and Chair of Ophthalmology and Visual Science, Yale School of Medicine
Chief of Ophthalmology, Yale-New Haven Hospital
Eugene M. Blake, MD, Yale 1906, joined the faculty of the Yale School of Medicine in 1907, served in the ophthalmology section within the Department of Surgery a total of 44 years until his retirement in 1951 as clinical professor. He was known for initiating glaucoma screenings. One of his outstanding publications was “The effect of ACTH in glaucoma” (American Journal of Ophthalmology, August 1950), co-authored with Dr. Rocko Fasanella and Dr. Andrew Wong, who served Yale ophthalmology for decades thereafter.

Rocko M. Fasanella, MD, Yale 1943, was appointed the first full-time chief of ophthalmology in the Department of Surgery by Dr. Gustaf Lindskog in 1951, who wrote, “This is our first attempt to establish the section of Ophthalmology on a University full-time basis. Dr. Fasanella will be responsible for the entire student program with the help of his clinical associates.”

Marvin L. Sears, MD, Columbia 1953, exemplar of the physician/scientist, was appointed to create and develop a new section of ophthalmology and visual science within the department of surgery at Yale in 1961, directly after his chief residency at Wilmer and laboratory experiences culminating with Ernst Barany in Uppsala, Sweden. Sears began to recruit gifted faculty to his organization, which he envisioned as an integrated clinical and research program. Seven of his faculty and fellows became prestigious ARVO awardees. During this first decade, Sears also served as structural organizer and first consultant for the National Eye Institute. In 1971, Sears successfully led the drive to transform the face of Yale School of Medicine by establishing five new independent departments from sections, including the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science. The residency program earned a reputation for turning out extraordinarily well trained ophthalmologists, several of whom became professors and chairs at prestigious US eye institutes.
Several members of Sears’ international research team also went on to become professors and chairs in Japan, England and Australia. In 1977, Sears won the Friedenwald Award for the body of his ophthalmic research, work that included the discovery of timolol, first useful drug for glaucoma since 1908. This work, done together with Merck chemists, initiated the development of the field of ophthalmic pharmacology. The power of Sears’ focus on recruiting high quality faculty and trainees to Yale was matched by his fundraising efforts. These accomplishments made possible the acquisition and renovation of the Boardman Building on Cedar Street, which opened as the Yale Eye Center in 1984. Crowning his many years of private and federal research funding, Sears was awarded an M.E.R.I.T. grant by the National Institutes of Health from 1991 to 1998. Two Marvin L. Sears Professorships have been established at Yale School of Medicine, funded by colleagues and patients whom he served. Today Sears supports recruiting and scientific endeavors within the department with Dr. Tsai and Dr. Zhou.

Two of Dr. Sears’ faculty colleagues served as acting chairs: Joseph Caprioli, MD, then Director of the Glaucoma Section, led the department from 1993 to 1995; and Caleb Gonzalez, MD, Director of Pediatric Ophthalmology, from 1995 to 1996.

M. Bruce Shields, MD, Univ. Oklahoma 1966, was recruited to Chair the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science in 1996, and led the Department for 10 years. Shields founded the Yale Eye Center Advisory Board, a group of benefactors who undertook fundraising initially to support research in macular degeneration. A champion of education, Shields developed Yale’s annual Alumni Day meeting into an accredited symposium, with associated formal commencement ceremonies for residency and fellowship graduates, and standing awards for excellence in teaching and humanitarianism in medicine. Shields inaugurated the annual Yale Glaucoma Symposium, now entering its 16th year. Upon his retirement in 2011, an endowed fund to support graduate medical education and the Shields Lectureship was established in his name by his many close colleagues and students he taught.
James C. Tsai, MD, Stanford 1989, took the reins as Yale’s third chair of Ophthalmology and Visual Science in 2006, following a comprehensive national search and evaluation process by the Yale School of Medicine on the role of ophthalmology in the future of medicine. Acknowledging the need for expanded clinical space as well as new technology and instrumentation, Dean Robert Alpern authorized a multimillion dollar investment in renovating and equipping new facilities for the department in the Temple Medical Center.

Dr. Tsai moved the department en masse to its state-of-the-art practice location in downtown New Haven in October 2007. Our scientists moved into new research labs on the eighth floor of 300 George Street, so that ophthalmic basic science and medicine still operate closely together.

Dr. Tsai significantly increased the size of the department’s faculty by recruiting additional specialists in vitreoretinal surgery, pediatric ophthalmology, oculoplastics, glaucoma, cornea and refractive surgery, neuro-ophthalmology, and vision rehabilitation. Tsai also recruited the first ophthalmic oncologist to practice in Connecticut, eliminating the need to refer eye cancer patients out of state. In addition to facilities in the Temple Medical Center, ophthalmic oncology is now operational within the Smilow Cancer Hospital at Yale-New Haven.
Growth in clinical activity, reflected below in steady increases in volume during the past five year period, testifies to the success of Dean Alpern’s vision, Dr. Tsai’s leadership, and the faculty and staff’s dedication and hard work.
Dr. Tomas Grippo, Associate Director of Clinical and Translational Research, explains a glaucoma laser procedure to his patient.
The Glaucoma Section comprises internationally recognized clinicians and researchers offering a complete range of services for patients with glaucoma and related diseases. The physicians utilize the latest technologies to diagnose and treat glaucoma.

These technologies include:
- Trabectome, a minimally invasive procedure that can be easily combined with cataract surgery. The procedure improves drainage without leaving a permanent hole in the eye wall or creating an external filtering bleb.
- The suprachoroidal “gold shunt” implant, an option for patients for whom standard procedures have failed. The Yale Eye Center is one of only a few study sites nationwide for this innovative technology.

Clinicians utilize spectral domain OCT and hRT3 for quantitative optic nerve head analysis. Other state-of-the-art modalities include Octopus and Humphrey perimetry; UBM; Visante Anterior Segment OCT; Topcon stereo fundus photography; and argon, diode, SLT, MLD, and Nd:YAG laser systems.

The operating rooms at Temple Surgical Center and Yale-New Haven Hospital have state-of-the-art microscopes and phacoemulsification systems.

The section is engaged in leading-edge translational and clinical research. Current research projects include reverse engineering of the outflow tract using gene therapy and stem cells, and neuroregeneration of retinal ganglion cells with Nogo receptor-blocking proteins. In addition, clinical research trials are investigating advanced visual field progression technology as well as optic nerve analysis with progression tracking.
Dr. Kathleen Stoessel, Director of the Retina Fellowship Program, is an expert in retinopathy of prematurity.
The Retina Section provides personalized and compassionate care through innovative and effective treatments to patients with complex vitreoretinal disorders. The section is a leader in developing new treatments for a range of vision-threatening diseases, including macular degeneration and diabetic retinopathy. In the past decade, the Retina Section has doubled its number of faculty and nearly tripled its clinical productivity, reflecting its burgeoning reputation for state-of-the-art diagnosis and treatment.

Discoveries by researchers in the Retina Section have advanced the science of retinal care, including assisting in identifying the genetic mutation for macular degeneration as well as treatments for retinopathy of prematurity (ROP). These breakthroughs have been paralleled by the development of new treatment options for these conditions.

The Retina Section is committed to:
- Using a comprehensive team approach to provide the highest level of care
- Conducting leading edge clinical and basic science research
- Using new surgical techniques to optimize patient outcomes

The section also dedicates its time and resources to international humanitarian work; it has provided care to indigent patients in the Dominican Republic and the Bahamas. Recent graduates of its fellowship program have been successful in both academic medicine and private practice.

Dr. Ron Adelman, Director of the Retina and Vitreous Section, welcomes his next patient.

Dr. James Kempton, Director of Eye Care Services at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System, West Haven Campus, provides retina care at the VA and at the Yale Eye Center.

Dr. John Huang (r), Co-Director of the Retina and Vitreous Section, discusses a patient’s case with Drs. Joseph Giacometti and Inna Marcus.
Yale-New Haven is the only hospital in Connecticut with the expertise and technology to perform the procedures that saved Kahrym Torres’ eye after a shattering injury.

ONE SATURDAY MORNING IN SEPTEMBER 2008, Kahrym Torres, then eight years old, her 14-year-old sister Melanie, and mother Dalma Mata were cleaning house. Melanie stepped outside and saw mounted police riding past their Bridgeport home. Knowing how much her little sister loved horses, she gave a shout, “Come quick, Kahrym. There are horses outside!” In her haste, Kahrym hurried out of her bedroom—and collided with the open glass of a china cabinet. Her right eye was severely lacerated.

Kahrym ran to her mother. “I thought I was going to die, but it was kind of like I wasn’t there. I was somewhere else,” recalls Kahrym, now eleven. Dalma picked up her daughter and ran outside to the mounted police brigade, who called an ambulance. She was rushed to the closest emergency room, where the decision was made to transfer her immediately to Yale-New Haven. The YNHH trauma team was met with a very serious injury. Save her sight? They were hoping just to save the eye. “The chance of saving her eye was in the single digits. Initially when we saw the severity, we prepared her mother for the possibly of losing the eye,” recalls John Huang, MD, Yale Eye Center.

But with the help of three specialists – Dr. Huang; Jimmy Lee, MD; and Hylton Mayer, MD – YNHH was able to do much more than that. In the Yale-New Haven emergency department, Dr. Mayer was able to reconstruct the eye. The next morning, “I could see light, I could see people moving their hands,” says Kahrym. Dalma adds, “We were all amazed.”

Two months later, Dr. Huang performed a procedure to maximize Kahrym’s vision by resetting the placement of her retina. In February, three months later, Dr. Lee did a corneal transplant, a vital step in her treatment. “If this had happened five years ago, Kahrym probably would have lost her eye. Today, Yale-New Haven is the only hospital in Connecticut with the technology and expertise to save it,” says Dr. Lee.

Kahrym is a lively, happy girl with many friends and top grades. She can read large letters and doctors say her prognosis is very good. Cosmetically, the damage is barely visible.

But the long recovery process took its toll. She missed two months of school and struggled with depression. Then she happened to read a book about people who have survived big challenges. “It made me think about how other kids in my school have had bad things happen to them, too. I was inspired to write a book about them,” she says. Kahrym wrote and illustrated her own book called Outstanding Survival Stories, which won Bridgeport’s Young Authors Conference competition, open to all Bridgeport students. The book tells the stories of classmates who have survived such traumatic events as heart surgery, a house fire, and emigrating from Mexico amid difficult circumstances into the United States.
Dr. Daniel Salchow, Director of the Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Section, performs a detailed comprehensive examination of his young patient.
The mission of the Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Section at Yale is to provide exceptional care for any child with a vision or eye problem. We know that clear vision is important for children to thrive and grow into confident, productive adults, and we welcome the opportunity to work with parents and caregivers to achieve that goal.

These are the areas in which the Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Section has particular expertise:
- Evaluations and treatment of childhood glaucoma
- Evaluation and treatment of complex childhood cataracts
- Evaluation and treatment of strabismus (misalignment of the eyes)
- Evaluation and treatment of amblyopia (lazy eye)

The section is also working to improve eye care through active research. We are investigating the accommodative state in children under general anesthesia and the mechanisms and characteristics of childhood and adult strabismus. We are also working to develop new surgical techniques for the treatment of pediatric cataracts. Finally, Yale is involved in multicenter clinical trials through the Pediatric Eye Disease Investigator Group (PEDIG). The section has remained at the scientific forefront nationally and internationally through this active research.
The Cornea Service provides a wide range of clinical care in the management of complex ocular conditions. State-of-the-art diagnostic modalities include:
- Orbscan
- Corneal topography
- Optical coherence tomography (OCT)

- Specular microscopy
- Ultrasonic biometric analysis

The section offers the latest advanced surgical procedures for patients with such common and complex conditions as:
- Presbyopia-correcting intraocular lens implants (ReSTOR, ReZoom, Crystalens)
- Astigmatism-correcting
  - Limbal-relaxing incisions
  - Astigmatism-correcting toric intraocular lens implants
- Corneal transplantation
- Combined cataract surgery and corneal transplantation
- Partial corneal transplantation (lamellar)
- Endothelial transplantation (DSEK)
- Limbal stem cell transplantation
- Superficial keratectomy
- Conjunctival autografting
- Amniotic membrane grafting
The Yale Eye Center provides a comprehensive contact lens service, offering the newest materials and designs available for a variety of conditions including:

- Myopia, hyperopia, and astigmatism
- Presbyopia
- Dry eye
- Corneal ectasias (keratoconus)
- Corneal scars or post-traumatic irregularities
- Post-surgical (corneal transplant) care
- We are able to fit the following lenses using state-of-the-art technology:
  - Silicone hydrogel
  - Toric
  - Multifocal
  - Gas-permeable (including specialty designs)
  - Hybrid (gas-permeable in the center with a soft outer portion)
  - Scleral

Dr. Erica Volker, Director of Contact Lens, fits specialty contact lenses for complex cornea patients.
The Ophthalmic Plastic and Orbital Surgery Section, led by Dr. Flora Levin, focuses on disorders affecting the eyelids, lacrimal drainage system and orbits. We provide care to adults and children with eyelid malpositions, epiphora, benign and malignant eyelid and orbital tumors, thyroid eye disease, and periocular trauma. Dr. Levin’s training and experience in neuro-ophthalmology complements the treatment of orbital diseases as the two are often closely related. We also provide a highly specialized range of cosmetic services.

As part of the Yale School of Medicine and Yale-New Haven Hospital, we manage complex oncologic and trauma patients with a multidisciplinary team of radiologists, oncologists, pathologists, surgeons, and other highly skilled specialists.
The Ophthalmic Oncology Section is led by Dr. Miguel A. Materin, a full-time ocular oncologist with 20 years of experience in the field. Patients with ocular cancers at Yale are managed in a multidisciplinary approach that includes such other specialties as radiation oncology, medical oncology, pediatric oncology, interventional neurosurgery, neuro-oncology, cancer genetic counseling, and family support.

Cancers like retinoblastoma are treated in a specialized program, providing state-of-the-art care and family support. “We do not only treat the patient, but we also help the family to face this difficult time.” Retinoblastoma treatment options at Yale include systemic chemotherapy, intra-arterial chemotherapy, radiation, cryotherapy, transpupillary thermotherapy, and others.

Patients with ocular melanoma receive a detailed explanation of the disease, diagnosis, prognosis, options for treatment, and current research in the field. Fine-needle aspiration biopsy (FNAB) for life prognosis and for research for genome sequencing is offered to all patients.

Patients with other ocular tumors and cancers as well as patients with systemic cancers with ocular complications are also treated at our institution, including those with lymphoma, phakomatoses, metastatic cancers, choroidal hemangiomas, and choroidal osteomas among others.

Within the Ophthalmic Oncology Section, Dr. Flora Levin provides treatment to patients with tumors and cancers of the eyelid and orbit.
The Comprehensive Ophthalmology/Cataract Surgery Section comprises general ophthalmologists and subspecialists who provide complete medical and surgical eye care. We offer the latest small-incision sutureless cataract surgery and premium lens implants to maximize vision and minimize recovery times.

While we treat many patients with straightforward cataracts, we specialize in managing cataract surgery in patients with complex eye conditions, including corneal disease, glaucoma, and small pupils. In addition, we offer streamlined access and coordinated care with our subspecialists for patients with such eye diseases as diabetes or macular degeneration.

We often perform combined surgeries in conjunction with these specialists to reduce visits to the operating room and optimize patient outcomes.
The Neuro-Ophthalmology Section focuses on disorders of the central nervous system that affect the visual pathways. We care for adult and pediatric patients with a variety of neuro-ophthalmic conditions, including optic nerve disorders, cranial neuropathies, neuromuscular disorders, orbital and intracranial tumors, and systemic degenerative and inflammatory diseases.

The section works closely with the Departments of Neurology, Neurosurgery, and Internal Medicine to offer multidisciplinary individualized care.

Dr. Flora Levin performs a comprehensive neuro-ophthalmology evaluation.

Dr. Thomas Walsh leads residents in a review of visual fields.

Dr. Flora Levin performs a comprehensive neuro-ophthalmology evaluation.
Dr. David Parke directs this section, helping people with low vision maximize their remaining vision in order to be as independent as possible. Low vision ranges from moderate loss to near total blindness. Its leading causes are cataracts, diabetic retinopathy, glaucoma, macular degeneration, and neurovascular diseases. Patients are helped to cope with difficulties reading, writing, and maintaining financial independence; using stoves and ovens, eating, and using telephones or watching television; grooming and self-care; and mobility problems.

Vision rehabilitation services include a comprehensive evaluation by a specially trained ophthalmologist and ophthalmology residents; counseling and encouragement to ensure success; prescription or provision of optical devices and aids for daily living along with instruction in their use; and follow-up to assess progress. We are proud of our success in teaching patients to use electronic aids, particularly new smartphones with video, audio, and GPS capabilities. Most standard optical devices are free, gifts of the Lions Clubs in our area. We take a horizontal approach to rehabilitation by working with primary physicians, occupational therapists, social workers, and state services for the legally blind.
Dr. John Sinard has headed the Ophthalmic Pathology Service at Yale for over fifteen years. Fully integrated into the Yale Pathology Department, the ophthalmic pathology unit performs examinations on specimens ranging from eyelid or conjunctival biopsies to enucleations and exenterations. Dr. Sinard also receives consultative material from both ophthalmologists and pathologists in the local area. Since this material is processed in a full-scale pathology laboratory rather than a small service dedicated to eye pathology, the entire repertoire of diagnostic tests, including immunohistochemistry and molecular studies, can be brought to bear as needed. Dr. Sinard also has an active role in resident education, teaching ophthalmology residents one-on-one as part of a pathology rotation as well as giving monthly morning lectures.

Ocular inflammatory diseases are a group of ophthalmic conditions related to infectious, autoimmune, and masquerade diseases. Early diagnosis and proper treatment often requires a multidisciplinary approach with pediatricians, internists, infectious disease specialists, and rheumatologists. The Yale Eye Center’s Ocular Immunology and Uveitis Service offers a thorough and comprehensive approach to the treatment of these blinding disorders. Our uveitis specialists collaborate with other medical specialists in the care of patients with these complex systemic and ocular disorders using the latest medical and surgical modalities. The Yale Eye Center is a leader in the development of a novel drug delivery system as well as drugs for the treatment of these chronic conditions.

Drs. John Huang and Paul Gaudio are experts in the diagnosis and treatment of uveitis.
The Yale Eye Center has a presence on the main medical campus at Yale-New Haven Hospital (YNHH), Yale-New Haven Children’s Hospital (YNHCH), and Smilow Cancer Hospital, with operating rooms in all three locations. Patients seen in Yale-New Haven Hospital’s emergency department are followed up in the hospital-based Eye Clinic, which accommodates minor ophthalmic plastic and anterior segment procedures. Hospital-based physicians provide ambulatory and inpatient consultations throughout the medical center.

Specialized equipment includes an operating microscope, phacoemulsifier, videotaping capabilities, and pediatric microsurgical instruments. Yale ophthalmology faculty members, together with other pediatric subspecialists, take care of children with such difficult medical problems as craniomaxillofacial anomalies. These youngsters require a highly specialized team approach.

At Smilow Cancer Hospital, Drs. Miguel Materin and Flora Levin provide ophthalmic oncology care in a specialized area with fully equipped examination, diagnostic, and treatment facilities. The Ophthalmic Oncology Section at Smilow Cancer Hospital diagnoses and treats patients with ocular and periocular tumors, and evaluates oncology patients who have ocular complications arising from their primary disease or secondary to their treatment.

In addition to the private practice at Yale Eye Center, faculty, residents, and fellows care for veterans with ophthalmic disorders at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System, West Haven Campus, which is a 259-bed acute care facility five miles from downtown New Haven. The Ophthalmology Service has a very active outpatient clinic, with two full-time attending faculty ophthalmologists, including a full-time retinal surgeon, and a team of voluntary faculty members who provide surgical services and teach residents.

Yale Eye Center’s collaboration with the Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center (CS-HHC) is a unique partnership between an academic ophthalmology program and a Federally Qualified Community Center, which provides specialty eye care in one of the neediest communities in Connecticut. This eye service received over 4,000 patient visits last year. Each senior resident serves a full-time 10-week rotation at CS-HHC. Residents may not be fully sensitive to the complexity of the lives of patients struggling with poverty, inadequate housing, multiple medical problems, lack of health insurance, and other social ills that impact health outcomes. The Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center offers an opportunity to sensitize future subspecialty health care providers to these issues.
Translational vision research associated with clinical trials is critical to bringing medical innovation to patients rapidly. Dr. John Huang, director of clinical and translational research, and Dr. Tomas Grippo, associate director, oversee two full-time clinical research specialists who coordinate with many investigators pursuing dozens of simultaneous studies involving direct patient care. These clinical studies are funded by governmental agencies, private foundations, and commercial industry.

The Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science has an active and established program for clinical research trials. We have extensive experience in conducting studies, and work with pharmaceutical companies and contract research organizations to maintain active participation in new trials. Novel research directions are pursued by our researchers, pointing the way to new treatments to advance ophthalmology. We do and have participated in a wide range of sponsored clinical trials; some recent examples include:

**National Eye Institute**

**Age-Related Eye Disease Study 2 (AREDS2 Study)**  
A trial designed to assess the effects of oral supplementation of lutein, zeaxanthin, and omega-3 long-chain polyunsaturated fatty acids (docosahexaenoic acid [DHA] and eicosapentaenoic acid [EPA]) for the treatment of age-related macular degeneration (dry AMD).

**National Eye Institute: Pediatric Eye Disease Investigator Group (PEDIG); coordinated by the Jaeb Center for Health Research (JCHR)**

**Intermittent Extropia Study (IXT1 Study)**  
A study comparing unilateral versus bilateral eye muscle surgery for the correction of intermitted exotropia in children.

**Amblyopia Treatment Study 15 (ATS15 Study)**  
A study designed to evaluate the effectiveness of increasing patching treatment prescribed for children with amblyopia.

**Agency for Healthcare Research and Quality**

**Registry in Glaucoma Outcomes Research (RiGOR)**  
A prospective observational study comparing the effectiveness of various treatment strategies for open-angle glaucoma.

**Regeneron Pharmaceuticals, Inc.**

**View 1 Study (VEGF Trap-Eye: Investigation of Efficacy and Safety in Wet AMD)**  
A clinical trial to evaluate VEGF Trap-Eye in the treatment of the neovascular form of age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD). In November 2011, VEGF Trap-Eye was FDA approved under the proprietary name Eylea.

**SOLX, Inc.**

**SLX84 Gold Shunt Study**  
Clinical evaluation of the SOLX Gold Shunt for the reduction of intraocular pressure (IOP) in refractory glaucoma.

**Dr. Nils Loewen**, assistant professor and director of the Glaucoma Section at the Yale Eye Center, was the first surgeon in the United States to implant the novel strengthened 24-karat gold shunt device in patients who have failed conventional glaucoma surgery.

**Genentech, Inc.**

**HARBOR Study**  
A study of ranibizumab administered monthly or on an as-needed basis in patients with subfoveal neovascular age-related macular degeneration (wet AMD).

**Pfizer Inc.**

**Nonarteritic Anterior Ischemic Optic Neuropathy Study (NAION Study)**  
Case-crossover study of PDE5 inhibitor exposure as a potential “trigger factor” for acute NAION: a non-treatment study of risk factors.

**Merck & Co. Inc.**

**MK-2452 Study**  
A clinical trial to compare a preservative-free formulation of tafluprost to preservative-free timolol maleate in patients with glaucoma and ocular hypertension.
The basic science faculty of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science is directed by Z. Jimmy Zhou, PHD, Marvin L. Sears Professor and Vice Chair for Research. The major focus of their research is on neural retinal, where some of the leading blinding diseases originate. Yale Eye Center researchers share this guiding interest with vision scientists across the Yale campus in molecular genetics and development, degeneration and regeneration, function, and dysfunction of the visual system, with a particular emphasis on the retina.

Dr. Zhou plans to expand our research capabilities to such additional fields as stem cell research through recruitment of leading scientists from these fields. These basic research programs will form a foundation for clinical research, education, and patient care, and they will provide valuable opportunities for students and clinicians to engage in laboratory research with basic scientists to develop cures for blinding retinal diseases.

“Overall, I think an important strength of our current faculty group is the integration of molecular and genetic methods with cellular and functional approaches to understanding of eye development and eye disease. Research that lets us understand how the retina develops and functions may help us reprogram development—to promote generation over degeneration; to rescue photoreceptor function and to stop retinal cell death for patients with retinitis pigmentosa, macular degeneration, and glaucoma.”
Jonathan Demb, PhD, has developed quantitative methods for studying daylight vision in mice. Despite the fact that mice are nocturnal, his new approach has shown that mouse retinal neurons show robust cone-mediated responses for daylight vision. The results are important for studying the cone system in a variety of models of retinal disease. Dr. Demb also recently discovered how certain types of glutamate receptors (NMDA receptors) are expressed in specific types of ganglion cells. These results give clues to which cell types might be most susceptible to such eye diseases as glaucoma. Dr. Demb is currently conducting experiments that use state-of-the-art imaging technology to visualize functional activity in large populations of neurons under a microscope. These experiments allow new insights into intercellular communication in healthy retinas and in retinas impacted by disease.

Dr. Demb is the inaugural William R. Orthwein Jr. ’38 Yale Scholar, a special distinction awarded to highlight the importance of his work and to aid establishment of his new Yale laboratory. The program was recently created through the generosity of Mr. and Mrs. Orthwein.
In-Jung Kim, PhD, contributes her expertise in identifying and labeling subtypes of retinal cells with molecular and genetic tools. She has not only developed some of these techniques but also used them to find new cell types in the retina and to determine the structure and development of these cells. Being able to target specific cell types (and to alter them genetically) would allow her colleagues in physiology to study cellular and systems physiology of the retina in a much more specific manner and to understand retinal structure-function at a much higher level. It would also allow developmental biologists to understand the development of specific cell types in the retina together with their central projections. These techniques have already generated great interest; our basic science team will be leading investigations in this area.
Bo Chen, PhD, examines the role of certain classes of molecules in the function and survival of photoreceptors and other retinal cells, relating molecules to cellular function, development, and degeneration. His expertise in gene manipulation and transfection is complemented by the functional and developmental expertise of other labs at Yale. His interest in retinal degeneration also enhances the translational research capabilities of the department and promotes collaboration between basic and clinical investigators.
Research to Prevent Blindness (RPB) grants spur the development of advanced research into the causes, treatment, and prevention of blinding diseases. RPB is the world’s leading voluntary organization supporting eye research. It was founded in 1960 and has supported vision research at Yale since 1962.

James C. Tsai, MD, the Robert R. Young Professor and chair of the Department of Ophthalmology and Visual Science; and Z. Jimmy Zhou, PhD, the Marvin L. Sears Professor and director of research, have focused the energies of the basic scientists and clinicians towards forming collaborations that will result in promising translational research. Tsai notes, “We are extremely grateful to RPB for their generous support of the vision research program at Yale. Our goal is to accelerate the rate of scientific discoveries and translate these results into meaningful treatments for our patients in need.”

RPB channels hundreds of millions of dollars to medical institutions throughout the United States for research into all blinding eye diseases. For information on RPB, RPB-funded research, eye disorders, and the RPB grants program, go to www.rpbusa.org.

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<td>Nigel W. Daw, PhD, RPB Senior Scientific Investigator Award</td>
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<td>Yale Department of Ophthalmology &amp; Visual Science, RPB Challenge Grant</td>
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**Residency Training**

**Didactics**
- Six or more lecture hours per week in a comprehensive curriculum with full-time Yale faculty and selected subspecialists in the community
- Weekly visiting professors give a “residents’ talk” and CME clinical conference; residents meet personally with renowned academic practitioners from around the world.
- Periodic wet labs and annual symposia (Alumni Day, glaucoma, special topics)
- Annual Resident Research Day: features a presentation by a visiting physician-scientist who also serves as guest judge to select two annual Research Prize winners.

**Diverse Patients and Clinical Settings**
- Private patients at the Yale Eye Center: 28 examination lanes, seven specialized diagnostic/treatment rooms
- Cancer patients at the Smilow Cancer Hospital: one fully equipped examination lane, state-of-the-art diagnostic studies room, transpupillary thermotherapy laser and cryotherapy; Retcam III for baby exams with fluorescein angiography
- Community patients at the Cornell Scott-Hill Health Center: three examination lanes
- Hospital emergency patients and inpatients: emergency and follow-up care; inpatient consultation at the Yale-New Haven Hospital-based Eye Clinic: two exceptionally busy examination lanes and diagnostic/treatment room
- Yale is the only program whose trainees provide ophthalmology services to the large and growing veteran patient population at the VA Connecticut Healthcare System in West Haven: seven examination lanes, minor procedure room, photography suite, laser suite, and wet lab
- Citizens of the Bahamas: public eye clinic at Princess Margaret Hospital, Nassau: a four-week international service assignment for PGY4 senior residents.

**Princess Margaret Hospital**

Since 1982, Yale residents have served at the public eye clinic at Princess Margaret Hospital, Nassau. This exceptionally modest outpatient facility is now staffed by a full-time U.S.-trained attending ophthalmologist, as well as Yale senior residents, each for a one-month period during the final year of training; and Yale attending faculty, who supervise surgery for a one-week period every rotation. The program is a “win-win.” Hundreds of Bahamians are provided with high-quality eye care they could not otherwise receive, and Yale residents become more independent clinicians and mature surgeons. Clinical Professor I. W. “Brook” Abrahams, MD is the senior consultant for the program.
CURRENT RESIDENTS AND FELLOWS

Claudia Castibilanco MD
Yale School of Medicine

Cecily Hamill MD, PHD
Emory University

Joseph Giacometti MD
Jefferson Medical College

Inna Marcus MD
New York University

Nishita Patel MD
Florida State University

Nausheen Abbas MD
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey / Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

Ting Ting Liu MD
Jefferson Medical School

Amir Mohsenin MD, PHD
University of Texas

Spencer Rogers MD
Medical College of Wisconsin

Ryan Wong MD
Weill Cornell School of Medicine

Daniel Greene MD
University of Virginia School of Medicine

Nishita Patel MD
University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey / Robert Wood Johnson Medical School

David Shield MD
Yale School of Medicine

Elizabeth Yang MD
Northwestern School of Medicine

Kevin Kapiowitz MD
Glaucoma Fellow
University of Southern California / Keck / University of Texas

Aaron Parnes MD
Retina Fellow
Pennsylvania State University / University of Maryland

Matthew Dombrow MD
Retina Fellow
Albert Einstein College of Medicine / University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey
# HISTORY OF RESIDENT AWARDS

## Marvin L. Sears Award for Clinical Excellence • By Vote of the Faculty

<table>
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<th>Year</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<th>Name</th>
<th>Year</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1991</td>
<td>Martha Howard, MD</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Nauman Chaudhry, MD</td>
<td>2001</td>
<td>Paul Gaudio, MD</td>
<td>2006</td>
<td>Andrew Swan, MD</td>
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<td>1992</td>
<td>Peggy Liao, MD</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Robert Honkanen, MD</td>
<td>2002</td>
<td>Curtis Hagedorn, MD</td>
<td>2007</td>
<td>James Kempton, MD</td>
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<td>1993</td>
<td>Mark Raymond, MD</td>
<td>1998</td>
<td>Mohammad Ghafouri, MD</td>
<td>2003</td>
<td>Meredith Gershon, MD</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Rajeel Seth, MD</td>
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<td>1994</td>
<td>Blake Horio, MD</td>
<td>1999</td>
<td>Steve Laquis, MD</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Gregory Haffner, MD</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Raluca Raducu, MD</td>
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<td>1995</td>
<td>Grace Cinciripini, MD</td>
<td>2000</td>
<td>Cesar Sierra, MD</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Catherine Meyerle, MD</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Javier Servat, MD</td>
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## Resident Research Award • By Vote of the Faculty

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<td>1988</td>
<td>Raymond Wong, MD</td>
<td>1994</td>
<td>Henry Klassen, MD</td>
<td>2004</td>
<td>Jerome Ramos-Esteban, MD</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Mathew George, MD</td>
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<td>1989</td>
<td>Joseph Miller, MD</td>
<td>1995</td>
<td>Jonathan Sears, MD</td>
<td>2005</td>
<td>Setareh Vistamehr, MD</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Javier Servat, MD</td>
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<td>1990</td>
<td>Joseph Miller, MD</td>
<td>1996</td>
<td>Jonathan Sears, MD</td>
<td>2008</td>
<td>Anita Hwang, MD</td>
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<td>Mathew George, MD</td>
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<td>1991</td>
<td>Dean Cummins, MD</td>
<td>1997</td>
<td>Michael Lee, MD</td>
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<td>Vicente Diaz, MD</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Eric Sigler, MD</td>
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<td>Dean Cummins, MD</td>
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<td>Paul Gaudio, MD</td>
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## Patrick Mathews Award For Humanitarianism in Medicine • By Vote of the Residents

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<td>2006</td>
<td>Patricia Pahk, MD</td>
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<td>Deanne Nakamoto, MD</td>
<td>2010</td>
<td>Christina Prescott, MD, PHD</td>
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<td>2007</td>
<td>Gelareh Abedi, MD</td>
<td>2009</td>
<td>Anita Hwang, MD</td>
<td>2011</td>
<td>Inna Marcus, MD</td>
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## Recent Graduate Appointments

**2007**  
- M. Amir Ahmadi MD, Retina Fellowship, University of Chicago  
- William Christian MD, Cornea/Refractive Fellowship, Los Angeles, California  
- Elaine Shay Grobel MD, Private practice, California  
- James Kempton MD, Retina Fellowship, Yale University  

**2008**  
- Gelareh Abedi MD, Retina Fellowship, Boston University  
- Cinthia Covey MD, private practice, Connecticut  
- Rajeel Seth MD, Retina Fellowship, Yale University  
- Y. Michelle Wang MD, PHD, Ocular Immunology Fellowship, Johns Hopkins University/Wilmer Eye Institute, Glaucoma Fellowship, Duke University  

**2009**  
- Vicente Diaz MD, Uveitis Fellowship, New York Eye and Ear Infirmary  
- Deanne Nakamoto MD, Cornea/Comprehensive Fellowship, Hartford, Connecticut  
- Dawn Russell MD, Retina Fellowship, McGill University, Canada  

**2010**  
- Alison Crum MD, Oculoplastics Fellowship, Yale University, Neuroophthalmology Fellowship, Columbia University  
- Mathew George MD, Medical Retina/Uveitis Fellowship, Univ. of Miami / Bascom Palmer Eye Institute  
- Anita Hwang MD, Cornea Fellowship, University of Southern California/ Doheny Eye Institute  
- Raluca Raducu MD, Cornea/Comprehensive Fellowship, Hartford, Connecticut  
- J. Javier Servat MD, Oculoplastics Fellowship, Beaumont Hospital, Detroit  

**2011**  
- Omar Chaudhary MD, Cornea Fellowship, University of Southern California/Doheny Eye Institute  
- Mathew George MD, Medical Retina/Uveitis Fellowship, Univ. of Miami / Bascom Palmer Eye Institute  
- Joseph Lin MD, Oculoplastics Fellowship, University of California, Los Angeles/Jules Stein Institute  
- Christina Prescott MD, PHD, Cornea Fellowship, Harvard University/Massachusetts Eye & Ear Infirmary  
- Eric Sigler MD, Retina Fellowship, University of Tennessee, Memphis  

**2012**  
- Claudia Castiblanco MD, Uveitis Fellowship, MERSI, Boston  
- Joseph Giacometti MD, Oculoplastics Fellowship, Baylor College of Medicine  
- Cecily Hamill MD, PHD, Cornea Fellowship (2 yr), Harvard University /Mass. Eye & Ear Infirmary  
- Inna Marcus MD, Pediatric Fellowship, Duke University  
- Nishita Patel MD, Comprehensive Ophthalmology
FELLOWSHIPS

Clinical Glaucoma Fellowship

Nils A. Loewen, MD, PhD
Director

The Clinical Glaucoma Fellowship at Yale Eye Center is an intensive one-year AUPO FCC compliant clinical and research program. The Glaucoma Fellow is an active member of the Glaucoma Section, working closely with the faculty and the Glaucoma Resident in the clinical and surgical care of complex glaucoma patients.

The Glaucoma Clinic features an array of state-of-the-art technology including:

• Color stereo and nerve fiber layer photography, spectral domain OCT, and a confocal laser tomography system (HRT3)
• Anterior segment imaging with UBM and Visante OCT testing

Incisional surgery is performed at the Temple Surgical Center and Yale-New Haven Hospital in fully equipped operating rooms with ceiling-mounted or floor-based operating microscopes. Surgical procedures performed by the Glaucoma Section include:

• Trabeculectomies with antimetabolites
• Drainage implant devices
• Trabectome
• Trabeculotomies and goniotomies for childhood glaucomas
• Combined phacoemulsification and trabeculectomy (or trabectome)
• Suprachoroidal implants (clinical trial only).

Glaucoma Faculty

Tomas M. Grippo, MD
Nils A. Loewen, MD, PhD
James C. Tsai, MD, MBA, FACS

Clinical Vitreoretinal Fellowship

Kathleen M. Stoessel, MD
Director

The Vitreoretinal Fellowship at Yale is a two year program that is AUPO FCC-compliant. The program is devoted to clinical training in the evaluation, diagnosis, and medical and surgical management of vitreoretinal diseases in state-of-the-art facilities at the Yale Eye Center, Yale-New Haven Hospital, and the VA Connecticut Healthcare System in West Haven.

Training in clinical evaluation of vitreoretinal disease includes proficiency in indirect ophthamloscopy, slit lamp fundus biomicroscopy, and interpretation of diagnostic tests, including high-speed digital fluorescein angiography, indocyanine green (ICG) angiography, retinal autofluorescence, optical coherence tomography (Stratus OCT and Cirrus OCT), b-scan and UBM ultrasonography, and electrophysiology, electroretinography (ERG), and electrooculography (EOG) at the Yale Eye Center.

The Retina Fellows work closely with the Retina Faculty and Retina Resident as part of the “Retina Team” in the medical and surgical management of our patients. The vitreoretinal diseases cared for span a wide range from retinopathy of prematurity (ROP), to age-related macular degeneration (AMD). Many of the disease processes include but are not limited to retinal tears and detachments, retinal dystrophies, ocular trauma, intraocular foreign bodies, hamartomas, ocular tumors, retinopathies including hypertensive, diabetic, and proliferative vitreoretinopathies, and inflammatory and infectious vitreoretinal disorders.

Retina Faculty

Ron A. Adelman, MD, MPH, MBA
John J. Huang, MD
James E. Kempton, MD
Kathleen M. Stoessel, MD
Dr. Susan Forster serves as Director of Medical Education, overseeing student clinical rotations in the Department. Thanks to her dedication, Yale medical students with an abiding interest in the field are known to us early in their education, and receive mentoring in her ophthalmology interest group. Ultimately they receive career advice and letters of recommendation from Yale Eye Center faculty members. Seven Yale medical students matched at excellent ophthalmology residency programs in the United States and Canada in the fall of 2011.

Yale undergraduates can also facilitate clinical research by entering the Academic Associates Program initiated by a resident, Dr. Inna Marcus. Students review patient records to identify potential candidates, spend unhurried time with patients, explain the benefits of participation, and assist in monitoring data collection. This program has not only improved the spectrum of student experience but has also enhanced the rate of patient enrollment in clinical research studies.

Dr. Forster leads introductory lectures in ophthalmology for Yale medical students.

Yale medical students aspiring to the field of ophthalmology are mentored by Senior Retina Fellow Matthew Dombrow, MD.
FACULTY AND ADMINISTRATION

**Administration**

James C. Tsai, MD, MBA  
Robert R. Young Professor and Chairman; Chief of Ophthalmology, Yale-New Haven Hospital

Daniel J. Salchow, MD  
Medical Director, Yale Eye Center

Keith Della Rocco  
Department Administrator

Eileen Giaimo  
Practice Manager

**Clinical Faculty**

Ron A. Adelman, MD, MPH, MBA  
Associate Professor; Director, Retina and Vitreous Section

Matthew Dombrow, MD  
Instructor; Retina and Vitreous

Susan H. Forster, MD  
Associate Clinical Professor; Director of Medical Education; Comprehensive Ophthalmology

Paul A. Gaudio, MD  
Assistant Clinical Professor; Ocular Immunology/Uveitis

Tomas M. Grippo, MD  
Assistant Professor; Associate Director of Medical Education; Comprehensive Ophthalmology

John J. Huang, MD  
Associate Professor; Director, Residency Program; Director, Ocular Immunology/Uveitis Section; Director, Clinical and Translational Research; Co-Director, Retina and Vitreous Section

Kevin Kaplowitz, MD  
Instructor; Glaucoma

James E. Kempton, MD  
Assistant Professor; Associate Director, Residency Program; Director, Eye Care Services, VA Connecticut Healthcare System; Retina and Vitreous

Flora Levin, MD  
Assistant Professor; Director, Ophthalmic Plastic and Orbital Surgery Section; Neuro-ophthalmology

Nils A. Loewen, MD, PhD  
Assistant Professor; Director, Glaucoma Section; Director, Glaucoma Fellowship

Miguel A. Materin, MD  
Associate Professor; Director, Ophthalmic Oncology Section

Philip Palmisano, MD, MPH  
Assistant Professor; Chief of Ophthalmology, VA Connecticut Healthcare System; Comprehensive Ophthalmology

David W. Parke, MD  
Associate Clinical Professor; Director, Vision Rehabilitation Section

Aaron Parnes, MD  
Instructor; Retina and Vitreous

Daniel J. Salchow, MD  
Assistant Professor; Assistant Professor of Pediatrics; Director, Pediatric Ophthalmology and Strabismus Section

Aryan Shayegani, MD  
Assistant Professor; Associate Director, Cornea Section; Comprehensive Ophthalmology/Cataract

Kathleen M. Stoessel, MD  
Associate Professor; Director, Retina Fellowship; Medical retina

James C. Tsai, MD, MBA  
Robert R. Young Professor; Glaucoma

Erica Volker, OD  
Clinical Instructor; Director, Contact Lens Section

Thomas Walsh, MD  
Clinical Professor; Clinical Professor of Neurology; Neuro-ophthalmology

**Research Faculty**

Z. Jimmy Zhou, PhD  
Marvin L. Sears Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Science and of Cellular and Molecular Physiology; Vice Chair for Research

Bo Chen, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Science and of Neurobiology

Miguel Coca-Prados, PhD  
Professor (Adjunct) of Ophthalmology and Visual Science

Jonathan Demb, PhD  
Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Science and of Cellular and Molecular Physiology; William R. Orthwein Jr. ’38 Yale Scholar

In-Jung Kim, PhD  
Assistant Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Science and of Neurobiology

**Secondary Research Faculty**

Michael C. Crair, PhD  
William Ziegler III Associate Professor of Neurobiology and of Ophthalmology and Visual Science

Josephine J. Hoh, PhD  
Associate Professor of Epidemiology (Environmental Health) and of Ophthalmology and Visual Science

Lawrence J. Rizzolo, PhD  
Associate Professor of Surgery (Gross Anatomy) and of Ophthalmology and Visual Science

Caroline J. Zeiss, BVSC, PhD  
Professor of Comparative Medicine and Associate Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Science

David Zenisek, PhD  
Associate Professor of Cellular and Molecular Physiology and of Ophthalmology and Visual Science
We are deeply grateful to the members of our Voluntary Faculty, who are committed to teaching Yale residents directly in clinic and surgical settings, and enrich discussions during our continuing medical education conferences and symposia.

**Clinical Professors**

I.W. Abrahams, MD, DSc, FACS
Robert L. Lesser, MD
Peter E. Liggett, MD
David E. Silverstone, MD

Assistant Chief of Ophthalmology, Yale-New Haven Hospital

**Assistant Clinical Professors**

Darron A. Bacal, MD
Peter J. Branden, MD
Nauman Chaudhry, MD
Armand J. Daccache, MD
Vincent P. de Luise, MD
Leslie Doctor, MD
Patricia A. Ecker, MD
Joseph S. Elman, MD
Geoffrey T. Emerick, MD
Philip M. Falcone, MD
Andrew J. Fezza, MD
Paul A. Gaudio, MD

**Clinical Instructors**

Stephen Castracane, MD
Tara H. Cronin, MD
Paul C. Guida, MD
Jeffrey Hart, MD
Martha A. Howard, MD
Yanina Kostina-O’Neil, MD
Peter A. Marks, MD
Paul E. Masi, MD
Seth W. Meskin, MD
James J. Pasternack, MD
Richard Scartozzi, MD
Martin R. Shapiro, MD
Douglas P. Shore, MD
Jonathan E. Silbert, MD
Andrew P. Swan, MD
Steven C. Thornquist, MD

**Associate Clinical Professors**

Brian M. DeBroff, MD
Peter H. Haffner, MD, PhD
Andrew Levada, MD
Mark S. Milner, MD
Aron D. Rose, MD
George Shafranov, MD

Craig A. Sklar, MD
President, Yale Alumni in Ophthalmology
Robert A. Wiznia, MD

Joel Geffin, MD
Antonio Guerrero, MD
Stanley B. Hersh, MD
Wayne I. Larrison, MD
Edward S. Lim, MD
James F. Martone, MD
Alden W. Mead, JD
Anthony Musto, MD
Arnold D. Pearlstone, MD
E. A. Petrelli, MD
Richard L. Petrelli, MD
Anthony Romania, MD
Cesar A. Sierra, MD
Joseph Sokol, MD
Scott M. Soloway, MD
David Tom, MD
James M. Weisz, MD
Bernard D. Zuckerman, MD

**M. Bruce Shields Excellence in Teaching Award – Full Time Faculty**

- By vote of the Residents

2009 Daniel J. Salchow, MD
2010 M. Bruce Shields, MD
2011 Philip Palmisano, MD, MPH

**Excellence in Teaching Award – Voluntary Faculty**

- By vote of the Residents

1997 Scott Soloway, MD
1998 Brian DeBroff, MD
1999 Mark Milner, MD
2000 Leslie Doctor, MD
2001 Paul Guida, MD
2002 Ali Khodadoust, MD
2003 Andrew Levada, MD
2004 Anthony Romania, MD
2005 Susan Forster, MD
2006 Paul Gaudio, MD
2007 Robert Lesser, MD
2008 Brian DeBroff, MD
2009 Robert Lesser, MD
2010 Anthony Romania, MD
2011 Seth Meskin, MD
Dr. Tsai has welcomed hundreds of colleagues from the United States and abroad to participate in Continuing Medical Education (CME) events and conferences of the Yale Eye Center.

2007

Iqbal Ahmed, MD, University of Toronto, Canada
Eduardo Alfonso, MD, University of Miami/Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
R. Allingham, MD, Duke University
Sanjay Asrani, MD, Duke University
Rajendra Bansal, MD, Columbia University
A. Robert Bellows, MD, Harvard University
James Brandt, MD, University of California, Davis
Donald L. Budenz, MD, MPH, University of Miami/Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Louis Cantor, MD, Chair, University of Indiana
Karim Damji, MD, FRCSC, MBA, University of Ottawa, Canada
Robert Della Rocca, MD, Chair, St. Luke’s-Roosevelt Hospital Medical Center
David Epstein, MD, Chair, Duke University
Max Forbes, MD, Columbia University
Gary Foulks, MD, University of Louisville
Gina Gladstein, MD, Chief, Greenwich Hospital, Connecticut
Neeru Gupta, MD, PhD, University of Toronto, Canada
L. Jay Katz, MD, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
Terry Kim, MD, Duke University
Theodore Krupin, MD, Northwestern University
Paul P. Lee, MD, JD, Duke University
Cynthia Mattox, MD, Tufts University
Joseph Miller, MD, Chair, University of Arizona
Sayoko Moroi, MD, PhD, University of Michigan
Jonathan Myers, MD, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
Denis M. O’Day, MD, Vanderbilt University
Paul F. Palmberg, MD, PhD, University of Miami/Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Narsing A. Rao, MD, University of Southern California/Doheny Eye Institute
Douglas Rhee, MD, Harvard University
William L. Rich, MD, American Academy of Ophthalmology
Robert Ritch, MD, New York Medical College
Peter Rubin, MD, Harvard University
Alfredo Sadun, MD, PhD, University of Southern California/Doheny Eye Institute
Pamela Sieving, National Eye Institute
Gregory Skuta, MD, University of Oklahoma
George L. Spaeth, MD, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
Robert Stamper, MD, University of California, San Francisco
Ivan Suner, MD, Duke University
James Tiedeman, MD, PhD, University of Virginia
Charles Townsend, MD, Chair, University of Puerto Rico
Rohit Varma, MD, University of Southern California/Doheny Eye Institute
Martin Wand, MD, University of Connecticut

2008

Thomas M. Aaberg, Sr., MD, MSPH, Emory University
Iqbal Ahmed, MD, University of Toronto, Canada
R. Rand Allingham, MD, Duke University
Albert Alm, MD, PhD, University Hospital, Uppsala, Sweden
Makoto Araie, MD, PhD, Chair, University of Tokyo, Japan
Jorge Arroyo, MD, Harvard University
Dimitri Azar, MD, Chair, University of Illinois at Chicago
Scott Brodie, MD, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Claude Burgoyne, MD, Oregon Health Sciences University
Joseph Caprioli, MD, University of California, Los Angeles
Stanley Chang, MD, Chair, Columbia University
Michael Chiang, MD, Columbia University
Mortimer M. Civan, MD, University of Pennsylvania
Vital Costa, MD, University of São Paolo, Brazil
Eric Donnenfeld, MD, Ophthalmic Consultants of Long Island
Ralph Eagle, MD, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
Steve Feldon, MD, Chair, University of Rochester
Josef Flammer, MD, Head, University of Basel, Switzerland
John Flynn, MD, Columbia University
Max Forbes, MD, Columbia University
Robert N. Frank, MD, Wayne State University
David S. Friedman, MD, Johns Hopkins University/Wilmer Eye Institute
Douglas Gaasterland, MD, Georgetown University
Steven J. Gedde, MD, University of Miami/Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Barrett Haik, MD, Chair, University of Tennessee
Alon Harris, MS, PhD, Indiana University
Larry Kagemann, MS, University of Pittsburgh
Michael S. Kook, MD, University of Ulsan, Korea
Mark Latina, MD, Tufts University
Don Liu, MD, University of Missouri
Shizuo Mukai, MD, Harvard University
Peter A. Netland, MD, PhD, University of Tennessee
E. Mitchel Opremcak, MD, The Ohio State University
Paul Orloff, MD, New York, New York
Richard K. Parrish II, MD, University of Miami/Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Louis R. Pasquale, MD, Harvard University
Evelyn Paysse, MD, Baylor College of Medicine
Luciano Quaranta, MD, University of Brescia, Italy
Michael B. Raizman, MD, Tufts University
Leon E. Rosenberg, MD, Princeton University
Stephen Ryan, MD, President, Doheny Eye Institute
Alfriedo A. Sadun, MD, PhD, University of Southern California/Doheny Eye Institute
Thomas Samuelson, MD, University of Minnesota
Jost B. Jonas, MD, University of Heidelberg, Germany
Darrell WuDunn, MD, PhD, Indiana University

2009
David Abramson, MD, Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center
Esen Akpek, MD, Johns Hopkins University/Wilmer Eye Institute
James Acquavella, MD, University of Rochester
Rajendra Bansal, MD, Columbia University
Gaetano Barile, MD, Columbia University
Keith Barton, MD, Moorfields Eye Hospital, United Kingdom
Stanley Berke, MD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Mark Blumenkranz, MD, Chair, Stanford University
Richard Braunstein, MD, Columbia University
Neil Bressler, MD, Johns Hopkins University/Wilmer Eye Institute
David Brown, MD, Baylor College of Medicine
Susan Bressler, MD, Johns Hopkins University/Wilmer Eye Institute
Louis Cantor, MD, Chair, University of Indiana

2009

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CME Visiting Faculty 2007–2011

Paul Chan, MD, Weill Cornell Medical College
Steve Charles, MD, University of Tennessee
Roy Chuck, MD, PhD, Johns Hopkins University / Wilmer Eye Institute
Jack Cioffi, MD, Oregon Health Science University
Cathy Cohen, American Academy of Ophthalmology
Anne Coleman, MD, PhD, University of California, Los Angeles / Jules Stein Eye Institute
D. Jackson Coleman, MD, Weill Cornell Medical College
Donald D’Amico, MD, Chair, Weill Cornell Medical College
John Danias, MD, PhD, SUNY Downstate Medical Center
Margaret M. DeAngelis, PhD, Harvard University
Lucian Del Priore, MD, PhD, Columbia University
Diana Do, MD, Johns Hopkins University / Wilmer Eye Institute
Eric Donnenfeld, MD, Ophthalmic Consultants of Long Island
Jay Duker, MD, Chair, Tufts University

Eydie Miller-Ellis, MD, University of Pennsylvania
Robert Fechtner, MD, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark
Max Forbes, MD, Columbia University
Tamara Fountain, MD, Rush University and American Academy of Ophthalmology
David Garway-Heath, MD, Moorfields Eye Hospital, United Kingdom
Herr Prof. Dr. Med. Franz Grehn, Chair, University of Würzburg, Germany
Neeru Gupta, MD, PhD, University of Toronto, Canada
David Hardten, MD, University of Minnesota
Gregory Harmon, MD, Weill Cornell Medical College
Alon Harris, MS, PhD, Indiana University
Raymond Harrison, MD, New York University
Anders Heijl, MD, PhD, Chair, Lund University, Sweden
David Huang, MD, USC/Doheny Eye Institute
Douglas Jabs, MD, Chair, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Mohamad Jafar, MD, Chief, Children’s National Medical Center
Deyong Jiang, MD, Dean, Hunan Bright-Yard Eye Hospital, China

Peter Kansas, MD, Albany Medical College
Michael Kazim, MD, Columbia University
Robert Kersten, MD, University of Cincinnati
James Klancnik, Jr., MD, New York University
Theodore Krupin, MD, Northwestern University
Mark Kupersmith, MD, Albert Einstein School of Medicine
Richard K. Lee, MD, University of Miami / Bascom Palmer Eye Institute
Thomas C. Lee, MD, University of Southern California / Doheny Eye Institute
Jeffrey Liebmann, MD, New York University
Richard Lisman, MD, New York University
Maurice Luntz, MD, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Francis Mah, MD, University of Pittsburgh
Craig Marcus, MD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
James McCulley, MD, Chair, University of Texas Southwestern
Stephen McLeod, MD, Chair, University of California, San Francisco
Joan Miller, MD, Chair, Harvard University
Satish Modi, MD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine

Quan Dong Nguyen, MD, Johns Hopkins University / Wilmer Eye Institute
Robert Osher, MD, University of Cincinnati
Stephen C. Pflugfelder, MD, Baylor College of Medicine
Nathan Radcliffe, MD, Weill Cornell Medical College
Douglas J. Rhee, MD, Harvard University
Alan L. Robin, MD, Johns Hopkins University / Wilmer Eye Institute
Alfredo Sadun, MD, PhD, University of Southern California / Doheny Eye Institute
Jeffrey Sandler, MD, Connecticut Society of Eye Physicians
Steven Schallhorn, MD, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences
William Schiff, MD, Columbia University
Jeffrey Schultz, MD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Janet Serle, MD, Mount Sinai School of Medicine
Carol Shields, MD, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
Jerry Shields, MD, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
Paul Sidoti, MD, New York Medical College
Gregory L. Skuta, MD, Chair, University of Oklahoma
CME VISITING FACULTY 2007–2011

2010

Bruce Altman, MD, President, Connecticut Glaucoma Society
James D. Brandt, MD, University of California, Davis
Pratap Challa, MD, Duke University
Paul Chan, MD, Weill Cornell Medical College
Teresa C. Chen, MD, Harvard University
Mina M. Chung, MD, University of Rochester
John G. Clarkson, MD, Dean Emeritus, Univ. Miami, Executive Director, ABO
Rod Foroozian, MD, Baylor College of Medicine
Sai Gandham, MD, Albany Medical Center
M. Gilbert Grand, MD, Washington University
J. William Harbour, MD, Washington University
Jeffrey D. Henderer, MD, Chair, Temple University
Bonnie Henderson, MD, Harvard Medical School

2011

Natalie Afshari, MD, Duke University
Esen Akpek, MD, Johns Hopkins University / Wilmer Eye Institute
Erik D. Bigler, MD, Brigham Young University
Marino Bia, MD, University of Puerto Rico
Glen O. Brindley, MD, Chair, Texas A&M University
Eugenio Candal, MD, University of Massachusetts/Fallon
Ching-Jyh Chen, MD, Chair, University of Mississippi
S. William Clark, MD, Medical College of Georgia, AAO Ophthalmic Chair
Amir Cohen, MD, MBA, University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, Newark
Karim Damji, MD, FRCSC, MBA, University of Alberta
Beatrice Demarchais, MD, Laval University, Quebec
Sophie Deng, MD, PhD, University of California, Los Angeles / Jules Stein Eye Institute
Jack Dodick, MD, Chair, New York University
David Epstein, MD, Chair, Duke University
Sharon Freedman, MD, Duke University
Douglas Gaasterland, MD, Georgetown University
Terry Gaasterland, PhD, Scripps Institute
Roberta Gausas, MD, University of Pennsylvania
Guilherme B. Guedes, MD, Universidade Evangelica do Parana, Brazil
Karl Golnik, MD, University of Cincinnati
Julia A. Haller, MD, Chair, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
Leon W. Herndon, MD, Duke University
David G. Hunter, MD, PhD, Harvard University
Milko Iliev, MD, University of Bern, Switzerland
Malik Kahook, MD, University of Colorado

2011

Samuel C. Yiu, MD, PhD, University of Southern California / Doheny Eye Institute
Joshua A. Young, MD, New York University

L. Jay Katz, MD, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
Erin Lavik, SC, Case Western University
Shan Lin, MD, University of California, San Francisco
Norman Medow, MD, Albert Einstein College of Medicine
Neil R. Miller, MD, Johns Hopkins University / Wilmer Eye Institute
Sayoko Moroi, MD, PhD, University of Michigan
Frank Moya, MD, Duke University
Jonathan Myers, MD, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
Peter Netland, MD, PhD, Chair, University of Virginia
Jeffrey G. Odel, MD, Columbia University
Augusto Paranhos, MD, Federal University of Sao Paulo, Brazil
Louis Pasquale, MD, Harvard University
Bruce E. Prum, MD, University of Virginia
Michael Rosenberg, MD, Hackensack University
Sarwat Salim, MD, University of Tennessee
Joel S. Schuman, MD, Chair, University of Pittsburgh
Mark Sherwood, MD, University of Florida
Steven Shields, MD, St. Louis University
Morton E. Smith, MD, Washington University
Samuel Solish, MD, Chief, AMA Ophthalmology Section
Alfred Sommer, MD, MHS, Johns Hopkins University
George L. Spaeth, MD, Jefferson Medical College/Wills Eye Institute
William Stewart, MD, Pharmaceutical Research Network LLC
Geoffrey Tabin, MD, University of Utah
Angelo Tanna, MD, Northwestern University
John T. Thompson, MD, Johns Hopkins University / Wilmer Eye Institute
Jonathan Trobe, MD, University of Michigan
Martin Wand, MD, University of Connecticut
Janey Lee Wiggs, MD, PhD, Harvard University
Helen K. Wu, MD, Tufts University
of Medicine, where he recently spearheaded fundraising of $400,000 to support an academic program led by Miguel Materin, MD, Yale’s ophthalmic oncologist. Rocky is president of the family’s business, Grade A Markets, Inc., which operates 10 ShopRite supermarket locations in Fairfield and New Haven Counties.

Rocky shares his philanthropic involvement with other Cingari family members. Sam Cingari is a board member of the Food Bank of Lower Fairfield County. Tom Cingari Sr. has served on the board of Trinity Catholic High School and Joe Cingari works with the State Street Debating Society in Stamford that helps fund four yearly college scholarships for high school students. Chip Cingari has served as a board member of the Connecticut Food Association and the Italian Center in Stamford.

But a visit to the Mansfield Training Center with the Connecticut Lions many years ago spurred Rocky’s own philanthropic efforts in support of those with vision problems. “There were 125 people living there who were mentally retarded and blind and didn’t have the skills to help themselves,” said Rocky, who is a past president of the Darien Lions Club. “They were mixed in with others who weren’t blind. At the Connecticut Lions Eye Research Foundation, we raised money to provide them with their own building and a staff that would teach them how to eat and care for themselves so that they could have a better life. That led me to my involvement with the Yale Eye Center.”

“Anybody who has eye problems or can’t see is handicapped,” said Rocky, who has worked with every Ophthalmology and Visual Science chair beginning with Marvin Sears, MD, then with Bruce Shields, MD, and currently with James Tsai, MD. “I thought that if we could work with them and do something to benefit those with eye problems, it would be helpful.”

His first fundraising project for the Yale Eye Center was to raise money for the study of glaucoma and its treatment with timolol. The Cingari Family Foundation was formed two years ago to continue the work done informally by Rocky, who noted that he was chairman of campaigns in the past that have raised $500,000, $1 million, $3 million and $5 million, respectively.

He serves on the Yale Eye Center’s Advisory Committee with 20 current and former patients who also want to contribute to the Center’s continued success. “We undertake various projects and raise the money needed to fund them,” added Rocky. “The committee members are people who were helped out by the Center so they, in turn, want to help out.”

Not one to rest on his past accomplishments, Rocky looks forward to continuing to work on fundraising campaigns that will help the Center achieve its goals and benefit those who suffer from vision problems. “We expect to be working on a new project with Dr. Tsai to raise what we believe will be another million dollars,” he added. “We’ll be holding our annual Cingari Family Fall Classic Golf Tournament at Darien Country Club, where we raise approximately $100,000 annually for eye research.”

It’s another example of how Rocky gives back to the community and to the Yale Eye Center.
Named and Endowed Lectureships

- **M. Bruce Shields**
  - *Initiated 2007 by Herbst Foundation; Endowed 2011 by Friends*
  - 2007: George L. Spaeth, MD
  - 2008: R. Rand Allingham, MD
  - 2009: Gregory L. Skuta, MD
  - 2010: Robert L. Stamper, MD
  - 2011: Joel S. Schuman, MD

- **Homer McK. Rees**
  - *Endowed 2008 by Homer McK. Rees*
  - 2008: Max Forbes, MD
  - 2009: M. Bruce Shields, MD
  - 2010: Alfredo A. Sadun, MD, PHD
  - 2011: Leon W. Herndon, MD
  - 2012: Eve Higginbotham, MD

- **Resident Research**
  - *Endowed 2007 by Peter Thorner*
  - 2008: Robert N. Weinreb, MD
  - 2009: Russell Van Gelder, MD, PHD
  - 2010: J. William Harbour, MD
  - 2011: Julia A. Haller, MD
  - 2012: Peter J. McDonnell, MD

- **Moshe Lahav**
  - *Initiated 1999 by Family and Friends*
  - 2000: Daniel M. Albert, MD, MS
  - 2003: Peter R. Egbert, MD
  - 2007: Narsing A. Rao, MD

- **Marvin L. Sears**
  - *Endowed 2000 by Herbert and Karen Lotman*
  - 2000: Morton Goldberg, MD
  - 2005: Judah Folkman, MD
  - 2008: Festschrift Faculty
  - 2012: Gregg Semenza, MD, PHD
  - 2012: Jeremy Nathans, MD, PHD

Contributors:
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